



eDynamicLearning

— CAREER & ELECTIVE COURSES —



Course Syllabus



Course Code: EDL023

Music Appreciation: The Enjoyment of Listening

Course Description

Have you ever heard a piece of music that made you want to get up and dance? Cry your heart out? Sing at the top of your lungs? Whether pop, classical, or anything in between, music provides a powerful way for people to celebrate their humanity and connect with something larger than themselves. Music Appreciation: The Enjoyment of Listening not only will provide a historical perspective on music from the Middle Ages to the 21st century, but it will also teach you the essentials of how to listen and really hear (with a knowledgeable ear) the different music that’s all around you. Learning how to truly appreciate sound and melody is the best way to ensure a continued love of this delightful art form.

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Lesson 1: The Elements of Music

Lesson Summary

The world is full of music. We hear it as we shop and while driving in our cars. We attend concerts and buy albums and digital downloads to listen to by ourselves. Yet, despite having music surround us, we may not always stop to consider the elements and pieces that combine to make music. In this unit, we will consider some of the basic elements of music and how these elements are used in different genres of music. We will discuss pitch, rhythm, dynamics, melody, and form. Each of these elements is present in the music that we hear and play. It is the combination of them that produces a unique and interesting piece of music.

Learning Objectives

- Describe the basic elements of music.
- Understand and discuss pitch and melody and their roles in a piece of music.
- Discuss some of the notations and language used to distinguish rhythm in a piece of music.
- Understand dynamics and its effect on music.
- Analyze and discuss form in music and how this involves the other elements of music.



Lesson 2: Pop Music

Lesson Summary

Since the mid-twentieth century, pop music has been associated with youth culture. With the advent of rock and roll in the 1950s and the gradual separation of rock and pop music, young people have flocked to popular artists, spending billions of dollars on music, concerts and performances, and merchandise. In this unit, we will discuss the development of pop music, with its catchy tunes and lyrics. In doing so, we'll learn how pop music built on the musical genres that came before it and how technology influenced pop.

Learning Objectives

- Describe the relationship between popular music and pop music.
- Discuss the characteristics that help define pop music.
- Show how technological advances helped shape pop music.
- Discuss the history and development of pop music.
- Discuss the current status of pop music.



Lesson 3: Ancient Music

Lesson Summary

While we may never know what the first music sounded like, we do know that music has played a role in human history for thousands of years. This unit will focus on what is known about the history of music through the Middle Ages. It will include a discussion on the types of instruments that were used as well as the role of music in early societies. We will examine what is known about music in ancient Greece and the development of classical music in the Western world.

Learning Objectives

- Discuss the history of music before the Middle Ages.
- Describe the role of music in ancient societies.
- Discuss the styles of music that were present before the Middle Ages.
- Describe what musical instruments were used in ancient times.
- Trace the development of music through the Middle Ages.



Lesson 4: Renaissance Music

Lesson Summary

In this unit, we will learn more about the music of the Renaissance. The Renaissance in Europe was a time of great discovery and creation, and this was reflected in the music of the time. Music and society influenced each other in a number of complex ways, from the invention of the printing press to the increasing popularity of dancing and instrumental music. A number of instruments were created during this time that would eventually be adapted into the forms that we are familiar with today.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the Renaissance and its relationship to the music of this time period.
- Discuss the effects of music on society.
- Describe some of the instruments that were developed during this period.
- Discuss some of the characteristics of Renaissance music and the forms of music composed.
- Talk about a few of the influential composers of Renaissance music.



Midterm Exam

Learning Objectives

- Review information acquired and mastered from this course up to this point.
- Take a course exam based on material from the first four units in this course (Note: You will be able to open this exam only one time.)



Lesson 5: The Baroque Period

Lesson Summary

The Baroque period of music left a lasting impression on Western music. From about 1600 to 1750, composers changed some of the musical notation, established opera, and expanded instrumental performance. This unit will focus on the development of music styles such as opera and classical music. Composers such as Bach and Handel will be considered.

Learning Objectives

- Discuss the transition from earlier forms of music to music of the Baroque period.
- Analyze the changes that this period made to Western music.
- Discuss opera and how it developed.
- List some of the composers and musicians during this time period.
- Trace the development of music through the Baroque period.



Lesson 6: The Classical Era

Lesson Summary

From about 1750 to 1830, the Classical period of music occurred. Often lighter and less complex than music from the Baroque period, music from the Classical period features frequent changes in mood and an emphasis on instrumental music. This unit will focus on the classical period of music. It will discuss composers such as Mozart and Beethoven.

Learning Objectives

- Analyze the changes in music during the Classical period.
- Discuss the musical forms, such as sonatas, that were popular.
- Describe the common features of music from the Classical period.
- Discuss some of the composers from this period.
- Trace the development of music during the Classical period.



Lesson 7: The Romantic Period

Lesson Summary

During the 1800s, the Romantic period in music developed, creating many of the modern forms of music. This unit will focus on the Romantic period in music. It will discuss composers such as Chopin, Liszt, and Tchaikovsky. We will explore the effect of the increase in orchestra size on the music composed, as well as the increased importance of music performance and concerts.

Learning Objectives

- Describe the music of the Romantic period and how it differs from earlier music.
- Discuss the features and characteristics of music from this period.
- List some of the composers and musicians from this time period.
- Understand the role of music in society during this time period.
- Trace the development of music during the Romantic period.



Lesson 8: Jazz

Lesson Summary

During the early twentieth century, jazz evolved as a musical style that brought together music traditions from both the West and Africa. One of the key features of this musical style is improvisation. In this unit, we will discuss the development and influence of jazz. We will learn about some of the jazz musicians who helped to develop this form of music.

Learning Objectives

- Discuss the musical traditions that combined in jazz.
- Describe the characteristics and features of jazz music.
- Understand improvisation and its role in jazz music.
- Discuss some of the musicians who helped to develop jazz.
- Trace the development of jazz during the twentieth century.



Final Exam

Learning Objectives

- Review information acquired and mastered from this course up to this point.
- Take a course exam based on material from units five to eight in this course – the last four units. (Note: You will be able to open this exam only one time.)